

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/750,866	MANO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Terry L. Englund	2816	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amdt (Nov 10, 2005) and IDS (Sep 20, 2005).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-13, and 15 (now renumbered as 1-11, respectively for printing purposes).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>09202005</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to the applicants, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 4, line 10: changed "switch" to --switching--.

The change addresses/corrects an inadvertent oversight by the examiner (e.g. it was not identified in the previous Office Action), and ensures consistent labeling throughout the claims. For example, "switching transistor" is cited on lines 5 and 7 of claim 4, as well as on lines 1-2 of each of related claims 9-12.

Response to Amendment

The amendment submitted on Nov 10, 2005, and the IDS submitted on Sep 20, 2005, were reviewed and considered with the following results:

Amended claims 5, 10, and 12 overcame their respective objection described in the previous Office Action. Therefore, those objections have been withdrawn. However, when the active claims were carefully reconsidered, an inadvertent oversight was found in claim 4. This was corrected by the Examiner's Amendment described above.

The cancellation of claim 14 rendered its rejections moot.

Amended claim 15 overcame its rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, which have now been withdrawn.

Art Unit: 2816

Although Fig. 1 of the reference cited on the IDS shows a switching transistor (e.g. Q1) in series with a load circuit, that has a first resistor (e.g. R1) and one type of a load adjustment circuit (e.g. resistor R2 in parallel with transistor Q3), the reference does not clearly indicate the current, and the on/off, relationships with respect to the internal circuit and the switching transistor/load circuit as recited within each of the independent claims.

Therefore, there is no known objection or rejection remaining within the present application.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art references reviewed and considered shows or discloses the semiconductor device, or IC card, as recited within independent claims 4, 13, and 15. More specifically, none of the references clearly shows or discloses a load circuit coupled to the drain of a switching transistor, wherein the switching transistor receives an operation signal from the internal circuit, and the load circuit includes at least a first resistor and a load adjustment section as recited within claims 4 (upon which claims 5-12 depend), 13, and 15. Since there is no strong motivation to modify or combine any prior art reference(s) to ensure all the recited limitations within any of the independent claims are met, the claims are deemed patentably distinct over the prior art of record.

Claims 4-13, and 15 are allowed, and have been renumbered as 1-11, respectively for printing purposes. The renumbering takes into account the cancellation of claims 1-3, and 14.

Any comments considered necessary by the applicants must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the

Art Unit: 2816

issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication, or previous communications, from the examiner should be directed to Terry L. Englund whose telephone number is (571) 272-1743.

The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 7 AM to 3 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached on (571) 272-1740.

The new central official fax number is (571) 273-8300.


Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1562.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Terry L. Englund

18 November 2005



Kenneth B. Wells
Primary Examiner